

Contents:

1. WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT...
2. ICME SESSIONS AT ICOM 2007 - VIENNA, AUSTRIA. AUGUST 19 - 24
 - INTRODUCTION
 - CALL FOR PAPERS
 - CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
 - CONCURRENT SESSION ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
 - SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FOR ICME MEMBERS
 - POST-CONFERENCE TOUR - AUGUST 25-26
 - ICME HOTEL IN VIENNA
 - GRANTS
 - REGISTRATION
 - FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
3. ANNETTE FROMM. REPORT ON THE ICME 2006 CONFERENCE IN MIAMI FLORIDA"CONNECTIONS, COMMUNITIES AND COLLECTIONS"
- 4.
5. ARNE ROKKUM. CALL FOR PAPERS - 18TH JAPAN ANTHROPOLOGY WORKSHOP (JAWS) CONFERENCE 2007 - JAPAN
- 6.
7. OTHER UP-COMING CONFERENCES, EVENTS AND BLOGSPOTS
8. WORDS FROM THE EDITOR

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sixty years ago, Dr. Paul Rivet proposed a resolution during the [First Interim Conference of ICOM](#): "That ICOM suggest that UNESCO contribute by what means it has at its disposal--Press, lectures, radio broadcasts, etc.--to the creation in the world of public establishments consecrated to living science, to spread scientific culture and make known the importance of research and scientific discoveries and their results on human progress."

In this way, we can say that ICOM has always been somewhat "ethnographically" oriented.

Such an ICOM orientation makes this years ICME theme "The World under One Roof: Past, Present and Future Ethnographic Approaches to Universality" all the more relevant. How can we place our collections, our research and our modes of sharing knowledge in perspective with the idea of 'universality'? How has museum ethnography changed over the years, and what does this mean for the future of our field, and of museums in general? There are great possibilities for papers here, and I'm sure that many of you will be sending in relevant abstracts to the ICME2007 working group within the next two months at icme2007@yahoogroups.com

I look forward to the August conference in Vienna, both in the hope of having spirited ICME discussions, but also in the expectation of formative interaction with ICOM members from other committees in joint paper-sessions and informal get-togethers. I look also forward to travelling with a busload of ICME members through Burgenland on the ICME post-conference tour!

YOU can also participate! The Vienna organizers seem to have been quite good in catering to all budget ranges - from elegant luxury to inexpensive student housing (the ICME hotel suggestion being somewhere in-between these two categories). The ICOM 2007 web pages also list numerous flight discounts to the conference. Remember that the lowest "early-bird" fee for ICOM conference registration expires on January 31. You still have time to reach that, if you hurry!

Best regards,

Daniel Winfree Papuga

president@icme.icom.museum

ICME SESSIONS AT ICOM 2007 - VIENNA, AUSTRIA. AUGUST 19 - 24,

THE WORLD UNDER ONE ROOF: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE ETHNOGRAPHIC APPROACHES TO UNIVERSALITY

Building on the ICOM general conference theme of "[Museums and Universal Heritage](#)"

Arranged by the International Committee for Museums of Ethnography (ICME) of ICOM

INTRODUCTION

Contemporary touchpoints might include the in Paris, where the exhibition ([What is a body?](#)), features different perceptions of reality and aesthetics tied to specific places and times. The curatorial approach seems one of comparing and juxtaposing different cultural representations and perceptions of a universal category: The body. In

Another contemporary approach is found in the [Museum of World Culture](#) in Gothenburg. Here the focus is on connections, frictions and migrations between the cultures of the world, resulting in de-territorialized patchwork of Diasporas and trans-national ethnicities as carriers and makers of hybrid ethnographic materials. This curatorial approach seems to be underwritten by the notion of a world in cultural flux, where notions of authenticity and origin are subject to critical questioning.

It is now more than a Century ago since the [Pitt Rivers Museum](#)

Against this backdrop of changing approaches to universality, ICME invites papers to interrogate past and present assumptions about universality so we can better understand and perhaps rediscover possible futures of Universal Heritage in Ethnographic Museums.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Paper proposals are invited addressing "*The World under One Roof: Past, Present and Future Ethnographic Approaches to Universality*" or any of the following sub-themes:

- 'Ethnographic Curatorship' and Universal Heritage in historical and contemporary perspectives.
- 'Locality' and ethnographic representation.
- 'Holism' as an ethnographic focus.
- The future of 'The Collection', and collections of the future: What's next?

Paper proposals of up to 250 words may be submitted to ICME2007@yahoogroups.com until *March 31, 2007*.

Fifteen minutes will be allotted for presentation of each accepted paper, and five additional minutes for discussion. In addition to regular presentations, a limited number of "Virtual Presentations" will be accepted, consisting of "stand alone" PowerPoint or other types of media presentations which wouldn't need a live speaker to be understood by the audience.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

The [ICOM 2007 general conference](#) runs from August 19-24, with the ICME sessions being held during the middle three days, August 20-22.

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- August 20: Daytime ICME sessions. Dinner-party at the [Austrian Museum of Folk Life and Folk Art](#).
- August 21: Morning ICME sessions. Afternoon discussions and dinner at the [Museum of Ethnology](#) Vienna.
- August 22: Morning ICME sessions. Afternoon ICME General Meeting. Early evening visit to the ethnographic collections of the [Mechitarist Congregation](#).
- August 23: Excursion day, with a choice of several tours.
- August 24: [General Assembly of ICOM](#), Final Plenary Session, Farewell party

- August 25-26: ICME Post-conference tour (or a choice of several additional tours organized by the ICOM committee).

CONCURRENT SESSION ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

In addition to the ICME sessions, ICME plans also to be involved in a concurrent session on Intellectual Property, together with other International Committees and the ICOM Ethics and Legal Affairs Committees. The date and time for this will be announced later.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FOR ICME MEMBERS

During the conference itself, special activities for ICME members will include a guided tour and dinner-party at the [Austrian Museum of Folk Life and Folk Art](#), afternoon discussions and dinner at the Vienna [Museum of Ethnology](#), as well as a special visit to the ethnographic collections of the [Mechitarist Congregation](#). There is an added fee of 50 euros to participate in these activities, payable through the Austropa Interconvention agency: <http://www.austropa-interconvention.at/congress/icom2007/book.asp>

POST-CONFERENCE TOUR

Tour dates: August 25-26

"The sum of cultures. About dealing with heritage."

ICME board member Matthias Beitzl has planned an optional two-day post-conference tour of Burgenland specially for ICME participants and accompanying persons, including encounters with local ethnographic researchers and artisans; visits to various museums, collections and cultural monuments; four-star accommodation, wine tasting, gastronomical delicacies - and more! The aim of this intensive tour is to show the variety of culture on which the identity of a region reflects. As far as possible, we have involved an expert for each topic. This tour is NOT listed on the regular ICOM Post-Conference pages and brochures.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25 - Day I

08.00 am - Bus departure from Vienna

Direction: Burgenland north

> Introduction on the bus: Burgenland - a "European Project", 1921 - 2006

"Into the region > Cultural heritage and passion of collecting"

<http://www.dorfmuseum.at>

11.45-12.15 - NEUSIEDL

"Changing picture of landscape between transfiguration and contempt. Neusiedlersee and its cultural history"

<http://www.neusiedlamsee.at/>

> View over the lake and statement at the marina

13.00-14.00 - EISENSTADT

Winery Museum - Visit to the Historic winery in the Esterhazy Palace

<http://www.esterhazy.at/de/weinmuseum/index.htm>

> Guided tour and wine tasting, shopping possibility

15.00-16.30 - NEUTAL

Museum of construction culture (MUBA)

New, small, impressive and methodological well kept museum

<http://www.muba-neutal.at/content/index.php>

> Guided tour and coffee + cake

16.30-17.15 - STOOB

"A traditional center of pottery in the Burgenland"

Bus drive through StooB

interesting to see the decoration of the village, which points out the tradition

<http://www.stoob.at/gg/>

> Statement on the dialectic of representing culture and living of traditions

17.15-19.00 - FRANKENAU/LUTZMANNBURG

<http://www.wine-pentagon.com/>

<http://www.architekturraumburgenland.at/aktuell.php>

> Presentation of wine, marketing, critical statement about image, marketing, architectural trends, wine tasting with bread and cheese, shopping possibility

20.30 - EISENSTADT

Hotel Ohr****

check-in

<http://www.hotelohr.at/>

> If still hungry, dinner at individual cost in hotel possible

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26 - Day II

9.00-10.30 - EISENSTADT

"The new permanent exhibition"

Landesmuseum Eisenstadt (county museum)

<http://www.landmuseum-burgenland.at/>

> Guided tour with chief curator, discussion

11.15-12.45 - CASTLE OF FORCHTENSTEIN

Royal collection, to reign and to obtain culture marketshares

<http://www.esterhazy.at/de/burg-forchtenstein/index.htm>

> Special guided tour through the castle, collections, treasure chamber

12.45-14.00 - Lunch buffet at the Castle of Forchtenstein

14.45-16.45 - ST. MARGARETHEN

Sculptors Symposiahouse and quarry (festival area)

<http://www.st-margarethen.at/>

<http://www.die-st-margarethener.at/ort.htm#stein>

<http://www.bildhauersymposion.at/>

http://www.ofs.at/start_set.htm

> Meeting with Katharina Prantl (manager & curator), statement to modern art in Burgenland, implementation of the project in the beginning 1960s, problems with public perception, walk through the sculptor garden

17.00-18.00 - OSLIP

"Cselley mill - an alternative cultural project starting in 1976"

<http://www.cselley-muehle.at/>

> Meeting with the founder, history of the institution and importance in regional culture, guided tour through the institution

"Pottery: Cultural heritage, Design, Art and culinary aspects"

Robert Schneider & Evelyn Lehner pottery atelier

> Visit to the atelier, evening with food and wine in an outstanding garden environment

22.00 - Approx. arrival Vienna meeting point

ICME HOTEL IN VIENNA - "[ZIPSER](#)"

Several people have asked about a hotel in Vienna that could act as a meeting place for interested ICME members. Our recommendation is hotel "Zipser". ICME's Vienna expert, Matthias Beitzl, says that "The travel agency 'austropa' has reserved 5 double and 5 single rooms with garden view. In addition, the hotel has a lot more space, all together 47 rooms, some of them are also on the garden side, very nice and quiet, each with a big old balcony. Inside, they are fine with 3 star comfort, prices see on the web. I would recommend it (ask for the garden view).

<http://www.austropa-interconvention.at/hotels/en/zipser.asp>

In case the 'austropa' contingent is booked out, I am sure the agency asks for more or try it directly: <http://www.zipser.at/> (please refer to the ICME committee and the conference). Walking to the conference site takes about 15 minutes, to the city as well, lots of bars and restaurants in 2 - 10 minutes, across the street a spanish tapas bar called "[side step](#)" (good wine), and last but not least the [Austrian Museum of Folk Life and Folk Art](#) only 3 minutes away."

GRANTS

ICME is pleased to announce that we will be offering TWO grants of 750 euros each to help cover registration and accommodation costs during the 2007 ICOM General conference. Priority in application evaluation will be given to:

- ICME members.
- Participants presenting papers.
- Participants from developing countries.

Grant applications for these two grants must be sent to icme2007@yahogroups.com before *March 31, 2007*. Applicants should write why they are applying for financial assistance, the title and abstract of their proposed paper (if they plan on presenting one) and include a short CV.

OTHER GRANTS:

- [GRACE MORLEY FELLOWSHIP FOR ICOM 2007](#) (Deadline *February 28, 2007*)
- [Grants and Scholarships](#) on the *ICME links* page

REGISTRATION

General information about the conference is available on the main conference web site:

<http://www.icom2007.com>

Registration for the general conference, hotel booking, registration for ICME special activities and the ICME post-conference tour is possible through the Austropa Interconvention agency:

<http://www.austropa-interconvention.at/congress/icom2007/book.asp>

Online registration for the ICME special activities and post-conference tour is possible on the web page that opens for those that choose "ICME" as their committee during the registration process. If you have already filled out your conference booking form and later wish to make changes (such as registering for the ICME special activities or Post-Conference tour), you may enter the online registration again by using the access code that the Austropa company sent you on your registration receipt.

ADDED FEE TO PARTICIPATE IN ICME SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: **50 EUROS**

The special activity fee includes the dinner-party at the Austrian Museum of Folk Life and Folk Art on August 20th, dinner at the Vienna Museum of Ethnology on August 21 and the ICME visit to the ethnographic collections of the Mechitarist Congregation on August 22.

FEE FOR THE OPTIONAL ICME POST-CONFERENCE TOUR: **300 EUROS** (285 EUROS in shared double room)

This fee includes transportation, 1 night 4**** accommodation, breakfast, dinner receptions and entrance fees. Deadline for post conference tour registration: May 20th, 2007.

DEADLINES

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- February 28: Deadline for Grace Morley Fellowship For Icom 2007 applications.
- March 31: Deadline for paper proposals and ICME Grant applications.
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- May 20: Deadline for ICME post conference tour registration.
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on any of the above, please feel free to contact the ICME2007 working group at icme2007@yahoogroups.com, fax/voicemail number +13094245780, or [Skype](#): icmepresident

Best regards from the ICME2007 working group:

- Daniel Winfree Papuga, ICME president
- Annette Fromm, ICME secretary
- Matthias Beitzl, ICME board member

ANNETTE FROMM. REPORT ON THE ICME 2006 CONFERENCE IN MIAMI FLORIDA "CONNECTIONS, COMMUNITIES AND COLLECTIONS"

The ICME traditional post-conference tour started on the next day with a group of nine participants. The destination on the first day was the St. Augustine, almost on the northern border of the state via Florida back roads. The first stop was at the Clewiston Museum along Lake Okeechobee, one of the largest fresh-water lakes in the continental United States. This small community museum, which documents the history of the development of the area, the sugar cane industry, and cultural diversity among other topics, was in the process of re-opening in a new site. The ICME group was able to view the workings of a museum as it was remaking itself.

After a delightful lunch at the Clewiston Inn, complete with a viewing of the 1940s natural history murals by J. Clinton Shepherd, we drove up the center of the state on highway 27, through cattle country and orange orchards towards Kissimmee (home of Disneyworld). There we were able to visit the vast campus of the Wat Florida Dhammaram, a Buddhist temple established by the Thai community in Central Florida. Much of the art work in the buildings was created by local Thai artists. Another long leg deposited the weary group in St. Augustine.

Papers delivered at the 2006 ICME meeting in Miami are now posted on the ICME website (<http://icme.icom.museum>). The participation of more American museum anthropologists in the activities of ICME is strongly encouraged and if you are interested in receiving information about the committee, please submit your e-mail address to the appropriate place on the website to be placed on the mailing list.

Annette B. Fromm, Ph.D.
ICME - Secretary

On the morning of the first day, after the requisite formal presentations by representatives of the Ministry of Culture, participants were invited to visit the halls of the museum. Many artifacts from the huge collection from the rural areas of the country are displayed in a manner designed by the esteemed post-Communist period museum director, Horia Bernea. In spacious exhibition halls, artifacts are grouped together artistically in a way that they are appreciated for their aesthetic values. Other exhibits are creations of rooms and living spaces. Hand held devices in Romanian, French and English bring background historical and ethnographic information to the visitors. These exhibits are a delight.

Papers presented in English, French and Romanian varied in topics, but primarily focused on issues of identity and heritage. Several introduced participants to the philosophy of museums in the region. These included a paper on the Romanian Village Museum in Bucharest and the Transylvanian Ethnographic Museum. Another paper told documented efforts in Spain to create a museum in association with the solidarity movement in Western Sahara. Another presentation was on the relatively new movement for the creation of European ethnographic museums.

**ARNE ROKKUM. CALL FOR PAPERS - 18TH JAPAN ANTHROPOLOGY WORKSHOP (JAWS)
CONFERENCE - JAPAN AND MATERIALITY IN A BROADER PERSPECTIVE**

Dear Group Colleagues with a Japan focus,

You are invited to sign up for the next Japan Anthropology Workshop (JAWS) conference in Oslo, the University of Oslo. The Museum of Cultural History, March 14-17, 2007. The conference addresses the theme "Japan and Materiality in a Broader Perspective." But any other topic as well is equally welcome, whether this would be a proposal for a panel, an individual paper, a special lecture, a media event, or a round table discussion. Contributors to the conference are also invited to approach issues related to Japan from across-disciplinary point of view. Students and doctoral candidates are welcome to participate. The inclusive approach to the issue of Japan and materiality may be illustrated by the following possible topics:

- * Popular culture: media, film, fashion, commercial culture, food & drink
- * Place and landscape: monuments, sights, itineraries, mementos
- * The materiality of display: theme parks, museums, games, virtual reality
- * Significant objects: tools for identity making, proprietorship, emblems of power and interest
- * Inalienable or marketable crafts and skills

- * Nature, body, sexuality, and the sacred within the context of tools and technology
- * The physicality of selfhood: social use of the body

Received submissions will be posted on the conference website <http://www.khm.uio.no/jaws-2007/>. Some of the already registered panels may be open for additional participants. Please contact the organizer for information on this. Papers submitted as individual presentations will be grouped into thematically coherent panels. You are welcome to address any inquiry to the email address below. Conference communication in Japanese is welcomed.

Email address:

jaws-2007@khm.uio.no

Looking forward to seeing you in Oslo!

Best regards,
Arne Rokkum

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<http://www.khm.uio.no>

The Museum Ethnographers' Group Annual UK Conference 2007, will be held on Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 May at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London. The importance of exchange in creating and sustaining relationships has long been one of the fundamental tenets of anthropology. Trade, sometimes assumed to be primarily an economic transaction, also involves the development of relationships that link groups together. Trading relationships do not just involve exchanges of goods, but rather are part of a wider system of circulating values. Such relationships may have profound effects, particularly when they involve representatives of different cultural groups, as different systems of value come into contact with one another. Collections of ethnographic artefacts have often been acquired through trade, predominantly within the context of European expansion and the development of empire. The movement of artefacts, people and ideas has created shared histories, albeit ones whose tangible location is now often found and interpreted in European museums. The conference sessions will explore trading relationships and the development of museum collections, particularly when related to the maritime context of empire, and the significance of such collections to communities today.

Sessions to consider:

- * The impact of trading relationships on different cultural groups
- * Collecting activity and the maritime context

* The formation of museum collections through trading relationships

* The contemporary significance of historic trading relationships

A work in progress session is planned for up-to-date information on current and on-going projects (informal 5-10 minute presentations required). Papers from the conference may be considered for publication in the Journal of Museum Ethnography. Details of the Journal and the Museum Ethnographers Group can be found at the website - www.museumethnographersgroup.org.uk
For further information on the 2007 conference or to propose papers or sessions contact: Claire Warrior, Curator of Exhibitions, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London, SE10 9NF, United Kingdom Tel: +44 20 8312 8562 Email: cwarrior@nmm.ac.uk closing date for submissions is Friday 16 March.

Claire Warrior Curator of Exhibitions National Maritime Museum Greenwich London SE10 9NF Tel: +44 (0)20 8312 8562 Fax: +44 (0)20 8312 6620 or 6722 <http://www.nmm.ac.uk>

OTHER UP-COMING CONFERENCES, EVENTS AND BLOGSPOTS

February 13-15, 2007: Conference on Repatriation of Cultural Heritage. The Greenland National Museum & Archives, Nuuk, Greenland. <http://www.natmus.gl/con2007/>

March 14-17, 2007, 18TH JAPAN ANTHROPOLOGY WORKSHOP (JAWS) CONFERENCE, JAPAN AND MATERIALITY IN A BROADER PERSPECTIVE, University of Oslo, <http://www.khm.uio.no/jaws-2007/>
<http://www.comite-film-ethno.net/>

March 28-April 1, 2007: "New Frontiers in Arts Sociology, Creativity, Support and Sustainability", 4th Interim Conference of the ESA Research Network Sociology for the Arts, Lueneburg and Hamburg, Germany. Deadline for proposals: October 15, 2006. <http://www.new-arts-frontiers.eu>

April 10-13, 2007: "Thinking through tourism", Association of Social Anthropologists annual conference, London, UK. <http://www.theasa.org/asa07/>

May 11-12, 2007: "Collecting across Cultures in the Early Modern World", San Marino, California, USA. Deadline for proposals: November 1, 2006.

<<http://www.usc.edu/schools/college/emsi/conferences>>

May 13-17, 2007: American Association of Museums Conference, Chicago, IL, USA. <http://www.aam-us.org/>

www.museumethnographersgroup.org.uk). The closing date for submissions is Friday 16 March.
Claire Warrior Curator of Exhibitions National Maritime Museum Greenwich London SE10 9NF Tel: +44 (0)20 8312 8562 Fax: +44 (0)20 8312 6620 or 6722 <http://www.nmm.ac.uk>

May 24-27, 2007: 'Region, Regional Identity and Regionalism in Southeastern Europe', International Association for Southeast European Anthropology (InASEA) - 4th Conference, Timisoara, Romania. Deadline for proposals: November 1, 2006. <http://www-gewi.kfunigraz.ac.at/inasea/conference4.html>

August 19 - 24, 2007: "Museums and Universal Heritage: Universal Heritage / Individual Responsibility - Individual Heritage / Universal Responsibility", 2007 ICOM General Conference, Vienna, Austria. <http://www.icom-oesterreich.at/2007/index.html>

September 24-28, 2007: "Preserving Aboriginal Heritage: Technical and Traditional Approaches", Canadian Conservation Institute, Ottawa, Canada. Deadline for paper proposals: January 15, 2007 http://www.cci-icc.gc.ca/symposium/callforcontributors_e.aspx

October 11-16 2007 : International Mining History Conference 2007, Flanders, Belgium. Deadline for paper proposals: June 1 2007 <http://www.miningheritage.org/>

BLOGSPOTS

<http://museumanthropology.blogspot.com/>

WORDS FROM THE EDITOR

This first ICME Newsletter of the New Year certainly holds the promise of a stimulating 2007 ICOM-ICME conference, just one among many others. Let us hope that the Vienna location proves successful and attracts a record turnout of members as the ICME conference team have worked tirelessly since Miami and continue to work extremely hard on our behalf. So fingers crossed and best of luck with those funding applications to all of us!

<http://attic-museumstudies.blogspot.com/>

I send you all my very best wishes until we meet in Vienna, if not before. Be well everyone.

Viv

Viv Golding, Editor of ICME-news

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The deadline for the next issue is 30th March 2007. Please send your news to any of the above contact addresses, although email is preferred.